Atrocities on the weaker sections of Society

303. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state

(a) whether a conference of Chief Ministers was held in Delhi recently to consider ways and means to contain atrocities on the weaker sections of the society; and

(b) if so, the decision taken therein?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MLNCSTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI-MATI SUMATI ORAON): (a) and (b) A meeting of the Chief Ministers| Lt. Governors and Members of Parliament belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was held under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister on the 10th August, 1988 to review the recommendations of the Seventh Report of the Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and other issues regarding the development and welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. During the course of the meeting, some matters relating to atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes also came up. It was decided that three committees of Members of Parliament belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes would be constituted to make specific recommendations on the following:—

(i) Matters relating to reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

(ii) Matters pertaining to atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and

(iii) Matters relating to Socio-economic developmental issued pertaining to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Landless peasants in the country

304. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE. be pleased to state;

(a) whether any survey has been. conducted to find out the number of landlless peasants in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, Statewise, particularly in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV); (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid *on* the Table of the House.

Allotment of rice to Tamil Nadu

305. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU:Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tamil Nadu has re quested for additional allotment of rice to be distributed through the Public Distribution System; if so, the quantity demanded;

(b)whether Government have acceded to their request, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c)the total quantity of rice pro-curea in Tamil Nadu by the Food Corporation of India, and the State Civil Supplies Corporation during the year 1987-88?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA); (a) Yes. Sir. The Government of Tamil Nadu had re-quested that the allocation of rice for Public Distribution System may be raised from 50,000 tonnes per month ! to 80,000 tonnes per month.